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The Portuguese media has reported recently on the growing tension in East Timor with the Indonesian parliamentary election approaching on April 23. This information comes from the catholic church in East Timor.

Government authorities have been badgering the church for some time to force them to openly voice their support for the Indonesian ruling party prior to the election, say the sources.

Over the past two weeks, several churches have been destroyed by soldiers as part of this campaign to force the church to submit. A horde of people recently broke into the residence of the military commander in Indonesia and ruined his car which was parked in the courtyard, writes the newspaper Diario de Noticias. This is the first time that civilians have attacked the military in the capital of Dili, the paper says.